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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #12 (SO12)

(Conflict Reduced in Mindanao and Other Areas Vulnerable to Violence)



US, Italian envoys meet with Muslim religious leaders

At a meeting held at Ma'hadul Ershad Al-Islamie (Institute of Islamic Guidance) in Jolo, Sulu, former United States ambassador Francis Ricciardone (right) cited the efforts of *Ulamas* or Muslim religious leaders to enlighten the people and pointed out the misguided principles that extremists use to justify terrorism. Also present during the meeting were Italian Ambassador Umberto Colesanti (second from right) and United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Livelihood Enhancement and Peace (LEAP) Program Manager Noel Ruiz (third from right).

(Source: Business World, 8/08/05, page S4/3)